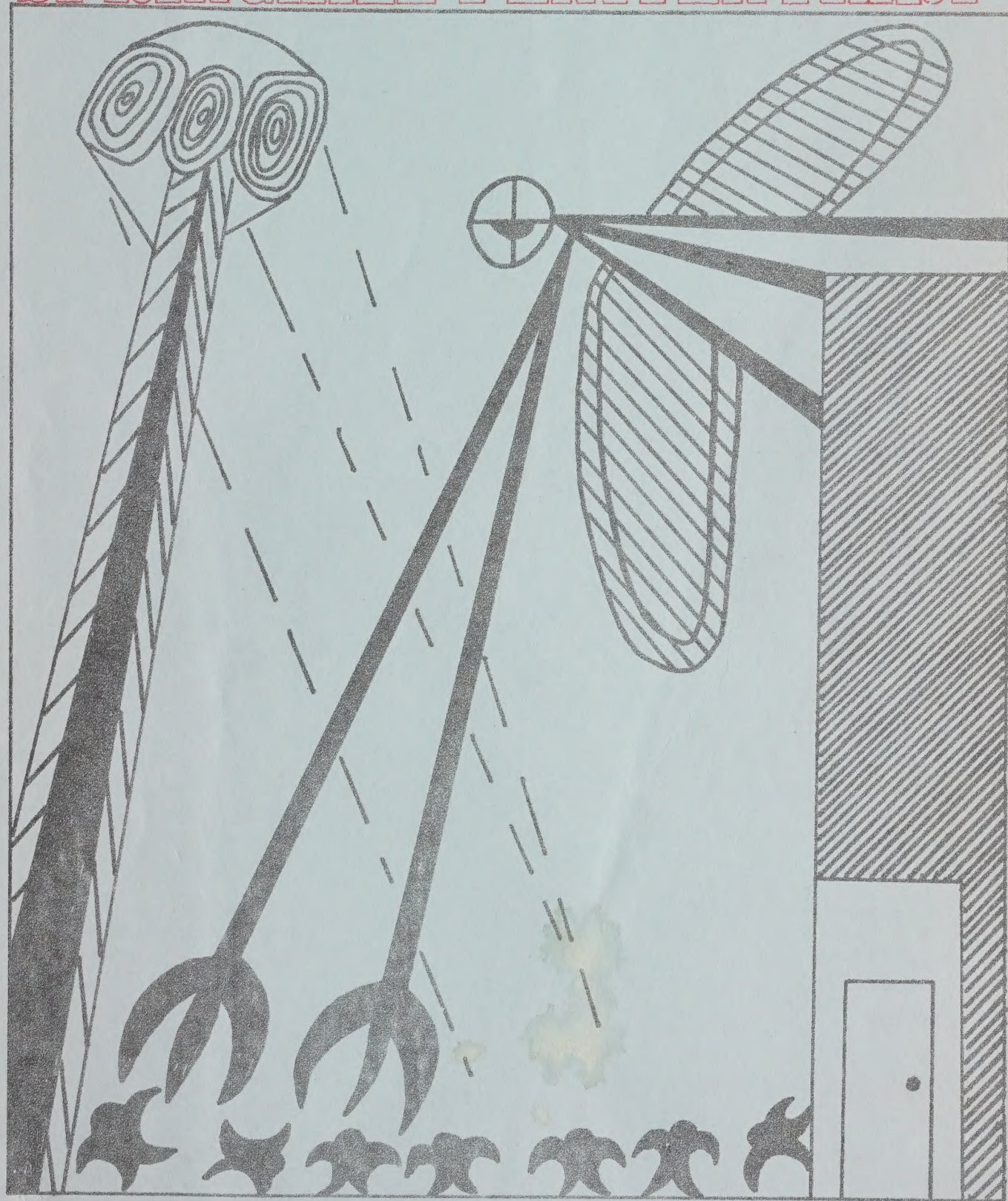


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THE COMMUNICATOR

SPRINGHILL PENITENTIARY



Where's The Maritimes?

Vol. VI, No.4

ISSN 0381-095X

Editorial

by GREG SCOTT

Another editor slides behind the controls of good ship Communicator. No drastic changes are planned for this publication. Some minor modifications, of course will reflect the tastes and viewpoint of the editor. I've known every editor and writer for this paper since it first deflowered clean sheets of Gestetner Impression Paper, and I've observed that each worker for the Communicator has, in their own way, been working for the improvement of something. I too believe that there is some point to continuing to work toward a higher consciousness. My efforts over the next year will include the attempting to further the cause of the abolition of prisons, the necessary implementation of diversion, and the inspiration of growth in those of us already held within the confines of prison, aiming at a time when prison will no longer be required.

The position of inmate editor is a complicated one. How is one to work toward the improvement of conditions within the Penitentiary System without alienating the people you're trying to get at? Neither inmates nor staff seem receptive to any sort of criticism, and often react with hostility to anyone who questions their motives, or the implications of their actions.

I intend to introduce the writings of the Prison Research Education Action Project (PREAP) through some excerpts from their excellent Handbook for Abolitionists "Instead of Prisons". In future also expect to discover some of the work being done by the Manumatt Foundation through the Prison Ashram Project. Their spiritual attack on the self-perpetuating failure syndrome, that the system conditions people into, is showing great success and is gaining popularity. We, at the Communicator, realize that no matter how wrong the system becomes, it doesn't justify doing it to people. We all get hung up in the faults of the system, the violence, the bad treatment, the disregard for human rights, but if we get too far into all that, it appears to me that we get as far out of sight as they do, and lose credibility with whoever might have listened. If we are well informed, reasonable, and understanding, the opposition sounds all the more far out and monstrous. It seems inevitable that the system will fall eventually, and we had better have our wits about us when that happens. Before any significant change in the realities of prison life comes, the attitudes of the public must change. As the Fortune News constantly reminds us, "the degree of civilization in a society can be judged by entering its prisons". If we took a long look at our own "Houses of the Dead", disguised as shiny facilities, institutions and centres we must recognize that these prisons are the very specialized offspring of a puritan and oppressed mentality which has not essentially changed over the centuries. Under the pastels (psychologically co-ordinated) and plexiglass, the fact of forced confinement have not changed.

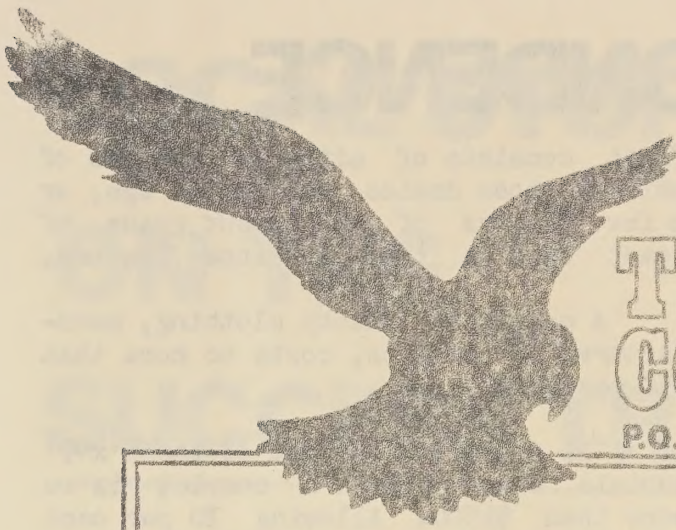
We may not be particularly at the mercy of a tyrant warden, but we are at the mercy of greedy politicians, thrill seeking reporters, power mad unions, and this wonderful society which isn't interested in anything unless it springs from the well-oiled lips of Telly Savalas or Peter Kent, and then only in easily-digestible seven minute lumps.

The latest manoeuvre in the shifting panoply of political pocket patting is local upsurge of dissention among the living unit staff. Thanksgiving weekend was spotted with paranoia as living unit staff prepared for a work to rule struggle with regional headquarters.

If the weekend is any example, it is very obvious that an "incident" could be manufactured with little effort. If by any strange sequence, a prison should blow its proverbial top, well then, lots of overtime on the local level, and on the federal level, and another ace in the hands of the Law and Order types.

Fortunately things seem to have cooled off here, so we're looking for a quiet Winter in that sense. As this editorial is being written, the Inmate Committee has resigned. The reason seems to be a lack of confidence on the part of a vocal minority. Most people, or at least the new people, around here don't appreciate what the

Continued inside back cover



Life is a pure flame
and we live
as if by an invisible sun
burning within us

(Sor Thomas Brown)

THE COMMUNICATOR

P.O. BOX 2140, SPRINGHILL, NOVA SCOTIA

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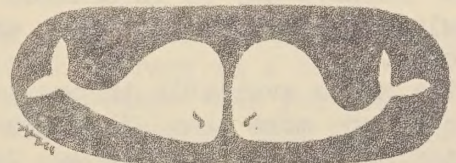
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CORRESPONDENCE

Dear Editor/Friend;

After my year's absence for my husband's sabbatical in Pasadena, California, I am now back permanently in Canada.

This autumn I will finish editing SINGING, manuscript deadline is October 20, 1977.

Do you have any writers or manuscripts you can recommend? It will be an anthology of Poems, articles, interviews, letters, fictional pieces and b&w graphics by women with experience in Canadian prisons or jails.

These women writers may be "in" or "out" now. Length limit is 6/8 lines to 2,500 words or 10 typed pages. Any mood or style is acceptable. I can use material that has been printed in little magazines (eg. Tightwire, Inside Outlook Catalyst, etc.) as long as I have the writer's permission and I will list the credits of where any piece was first published.

They can use pen names. (no pun intended) They will be paid \$5.00 per printed page of their material in Singing.

I have a small grant from Women's year, 1975 to help pay expenses of typesetting and printing. It will be on sale in bookstores and a flyer will be sent to libraries across Canada.

The quality of the writing is not as important as having some of these stories told to the general public.

Thank you for your help.

Sincerely,
Bernice Lever
Editor "Waves"

Dear Sir;

Today it cost \$17,000 a year to keep a convict in a Canadian penitentiary. Readers may be interested in the following itemization of this exorbitant cost.

The meals available in penitentiaries cost no more than \$1.50 per day. The staples of the monotonous penitentiary diet are beans and ground meat of inferior quality. Monday it's beans. Tuesday it's meat loaf. Wednesday it's meat pie. Thursday it's shepherd's pie, a revolting concoction consisting of 95% potatoes and five per cent inferior ground meat garnished with six or nine kernels of corn. Friday it's Salisbury steak (a glorified name for hamburger). Saturday it's hamburger. The Sunday

feast consists of either a portion of chicken whose demise was to old age, or a few slivers of the lowest grade of roast beef as tough as shoe leather.

A convict's shabby clothing, manufactured by convicts, costs no more than \$50 per year.

The construction cost of the 6'x9' cubicle which stores a convict is no more than \$1500. Allowing 10 per cent annual interest on that \$1500, four per cent taxes, two per cent depreciation and \$100 for heat and electricity, the cost of sheltering a convict is \$340 per year.

The cost of food, clothing and shelter therefore amounts to only \$938 a mere six per cent of the annual \$17,000 dollar budget. What then, accounts for the other 94 per cent \$16,092 annual expenditure? Staff salaries!

When a guard embarks on his official mission to turn a key he is accompanied by his team. A team consists of the guard who acts in the official capacity of turnkey, a supervisor who oversees that complex procedure, two other guards for essential moral support to maintain the team's leaky egos and a social pseudo-scientist who assesses the profoundly rehabilitative impact of a turnkey's operation and who files dogmatic reports which are instrumental in paroling convicts whose subsequent rate of recidivism exceeds that of convicts who serve out their entire sentence without the benefit of parole. This turnkey team lacks only cheerleaders.

The irony is that if the annual penitentiary food allotment was increased by 50 per cent (only \$274 per year an insignificant 0.2 per cent of the total \$17,000 annual budget), the diet could be improved significantly-not to the extent of providing gourmet meals by any means, but half-decent, nourishing meals. But penitentiaries won't allot that additional pittance required to improve the dispicable diet because a liberation of inefficient and superfluous staff in strict adherence to the precept that work could always be improvised to accupy any increase in staff, regardless of how useless or inefficient that work may be. It's little wonder that the penitentiary system is an unmitigated farce.

E. Martin
Archambault

Reprint from the Montreal Star

LOCAL STOPS ON THE SUCCESS TRAIN

The Raven

The sun was warm there, and the murmers of forest life blurred softly away of some commotion and outcry in the clearing, the light was slanting down through the pines in such a way that the glade was lit like some vast cathedral. I could see the dust motes of wood pollen in the long shaft of light, and there on the extended branch sat an enormous Raven with a red and squirming nestling in his beak.

The sound that awoke me was the outraged cries of the nestling's parents, who flew helplessly in circles about the clearing. The sleek black monster was indifferent to them. He gulped, whetted his beak on the dead branch a moment and sat still. Up to that point the little tragedy had followed the usual pattern. But suddenly, out of all that area of woodland, a soft sound of complaint began to rise. Into the glade fluttered small birds of half a dozen varieties drawn by the anguished outcries of the tiny parents.

No one dared attack the Raven. But they cried there in some common instinctive misery, the bereaved and the unbereaved. The glade filled with their soft rustlings and their cries. They fluttered as though to point their wings at the murderer. There was a dim intangible ethic he had violated, that they knew. He was a bird of death.

He, the murderer, the black bird at the heart of life, sat on there, glistening in the common light, formidable, unmoving, unperturbed, untouchable.

The sighing died. It was then I saw the judgement of life against death. I will never see it again so forcefully presented. I will never hear it again in notes so tragically prolonged. For in the midst of protest, they forgot the violence. There, in that clearing, the crystal note of a song Sparrow lifted hesitantly in the hush. And finally, after painful fluttering, another took the song, and then another, the song



passing from one bird to another, doubtfully at first, as though some evil thing were slowly being forgotten. Til suddenly they took heart and sang from many throats joyously together as birds known to sing. They sang because life is sweet and sunlight beautiful. They sang under the brooding shadow of the Raven. In simple truth they had forgotten the Raven, for they were singers of life, not of death.

THE IMMENSE JOURNEY

by LOREN EISELSY P.P. 174-75

Since our last edition of the Local Stops, we have received word that Mr. Watkins of the kitchen may not be leaving after all. Whatever his decision, we wish him the best.

Postal Codes

The most recent addition to our institutional Library is a codex for those darn postal codes. All you need to know is the street address and the province, and you can look it right up. As you probably know, ours is BOM LXO, the B is for Nova Scotia, and the O stands for a rural area. Dorchester Pen's code is EOA LMO, E being the code for New Brunswick. Larger places, like Quebec and Ontario have a couple of different letters for different areas.

Using these codes will help your mail get where its going a lot faster.

Newsletter

Need!

Since the Communicator always is a bit late, publishing only news of things past, we have decided to put out a paper every two weeks. This small sheet will be delivered to your cell, probably on a Friday afternoon. It will contain all the programs and activities for the next two weeks. On the last page of this rag you will find a calendar for the next 14 days.

If you have any suggestions or comments which would be helpful, please let us know.



Half Way

We have received a request to let our captive audience know about a new Half Way House in the Sudbury region. This three storey building can house up to 12 people. Director Matt Campbell is confident that the only way to go is up. The Sudbury area is a good work area for people with trades. Mining is the major industry, although the city itself has a population of about 100,000 needing the usual tradesmen and workers.

Laurentian University and Cambrian College are available for people interested in education. A modern transit system in the city can leave you at any one of five lakes, several movie theatre shopping mall complexes, and the usual bar and nightclub strip of any northern town. The local YMCA has a deal with the Halfway House, and all residents are invited to participate in programs.

Weekly meetings are mandatory at the house, says Matt Campbell, and some household duties will be required as the place is run like one big family. For a rent of \$35.00 a week for six weeks, you can't expect to stay at such fine places as the Springhill Hilton.

Inquiries should be directed to the Sudbury Community Residential Centre Inc
136 Regent Street South
Sudbury, Ontario
P3C 4C3 Phone: 673-5500

In an attempt to maintain some type of objectivity, we are asking our reader to submit any writings which praise the policies and day to day workings of this bureaucratic Mastadon, our benign C.P.S. Please address your work to the Communicator, C/o Fiction editor, P.O. Box 2140 Springhill, Nova Scotia, Canada B0M 1X0

CAC

A CAC Meeting was held in A-1 this September 12, with 5 persons attending. The meeting dealt with the reaction of the Solicitor General to the recommendations of the Parliamentary Committee, so far as they affect the CAC's. No new rules have really been added, and the institutional director still has the authority to select members, although he now must present his selection to the Commissioner for his approval.

A Contact report was read, as was a brief breakdown of the O.E.T. program in the form of a printed handout with some discussion. We also discussed various methods of boosting the committee's membership as this is always a problem.

PLS

Penitentiary Legal Services Association is a privately operated project which provides legal assistance to inmates of the Maritime Federal Penitentiaries at Dorchester and Springhill.

Penitentiary Legal Services presently assists inmates in their social as well as legal problems and offers the service to the immediate family of the inmate to the extent that their resource allows. Funding is presently divided between the Federal Dept. of Justice and the Dept. of the Solicitor-General on a year to year basis.

The staff visit each institution at least once a week, and generally more often as the need arises and when follow up interviews are necessary.

The areas in which Penitentiary Legal Services attempts to be of assistance are: appeal opinions, computation of sentences, parole and mandatory supervision, outstanding charges, family law, creditor/debtor, civil and other legal matters.

In order to obtain an interview, request forms may be obtained from your

living unit officer, filled out and returned. Your request will then be forwarded to the attention of P.L.S. Interviews are generally held in No. three building on Friday mornings.

Culture Day

At the annual Native Indian Brotherhood Culture Day all were entertained by the Kabatay Dancers from Eskasoni, N.S. They danced several traditional pieces, to the accompaniment of a large drum and bells worn by the dancers themselves. I was very impressed by the symbolism of the dances, and it certainly didn't take long to get into sync with the persistent beat of the single drum.

Brotherhood President, Steve Augustine, in speaking to the crowd, reminded us all that the institutional training program prepares a guy for the labour market, but there is no emphasis placed on the cultural education of native inmates, and this is where the responsibility of the native community is at. He also spoke of his disappointment with many of the chiefs who were invited, but never showed up. Chief Don Marshall was the only official to attend the Culture Day, and he also voiced his disappointment with his fellows. He nonetheless promised his continued support of the Brotherhood.

Plaques of appreciation were presented to people whose interest and help

made the progress possible. Sylvester Paul, the Native Liaison Worker; Joan Glode, of the Micmac Friendship Centre; Chief Don Marshall; and Bob Backen, Past President, were recognized for their efforts.

A cheque for \$100.00 was presented for the Chapel Island Building Fund, and another for \$50.00 for the Dancers to help them get around. An handcrafted wallet was won by Marylyn Sacobie for just being here.

The final speaker of the day was Jim Potts of Acadia University, who told of the ancient and modern Indian Culture in South and Central America, and their immeasurable value to a civilization today. Without understanding and respect for such cultures, we remain little more than barbarians. He brought with him a few artifacts and modern craftsmanship to show the artistic and symbolic style of these people.

The introduction of the speakers was punctuated by the deft maneuvers of Linda "Flash" Campbell, who recorded the event on film for posterity.

I don't want to end this article without saying that I enjoyed the afternoon as a social event, not only as an interesting time with the speakers. In summary I'd like to say that I consider the event a success, and am already in anticipation of a repeat performance.

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We The BIA

by ALLISTER WHALEN

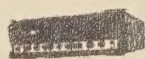


We the participants of the B.I.A. (Black Inmate Association) would like to acknowledge these certain facts; We have strived so hard, and tried so hard to bring all of our predicaments out into the open and solve them. So far, we have achieved the Unity factor, which helps us to find out a little more about ourselves, and helps us to establish more of a self-made "concrete" background for the movement. I also feel that we can achieve and put forth a lot more ideas. With a little help from the establishment we can put our ideas into effect.

We would also like to be able to help other brothers and sisters find out more about themselves and their heritage. After all, that's what brothers and sisters need today. I feel that a brother or sister that doesn't know at least a small bit about themselves isn't really the person he or she wants to be.

We, as blacks, have little knowledge of our history and heritage because the record was not written, but passed down through families by word of mouth. Only in the past few years have we learned the true meaning of an independant identity and pride.

So now, the task of locating our unwritten history is of prime importance, so that we may understand our psychological makeup better, and live harmoniously with others in our society.



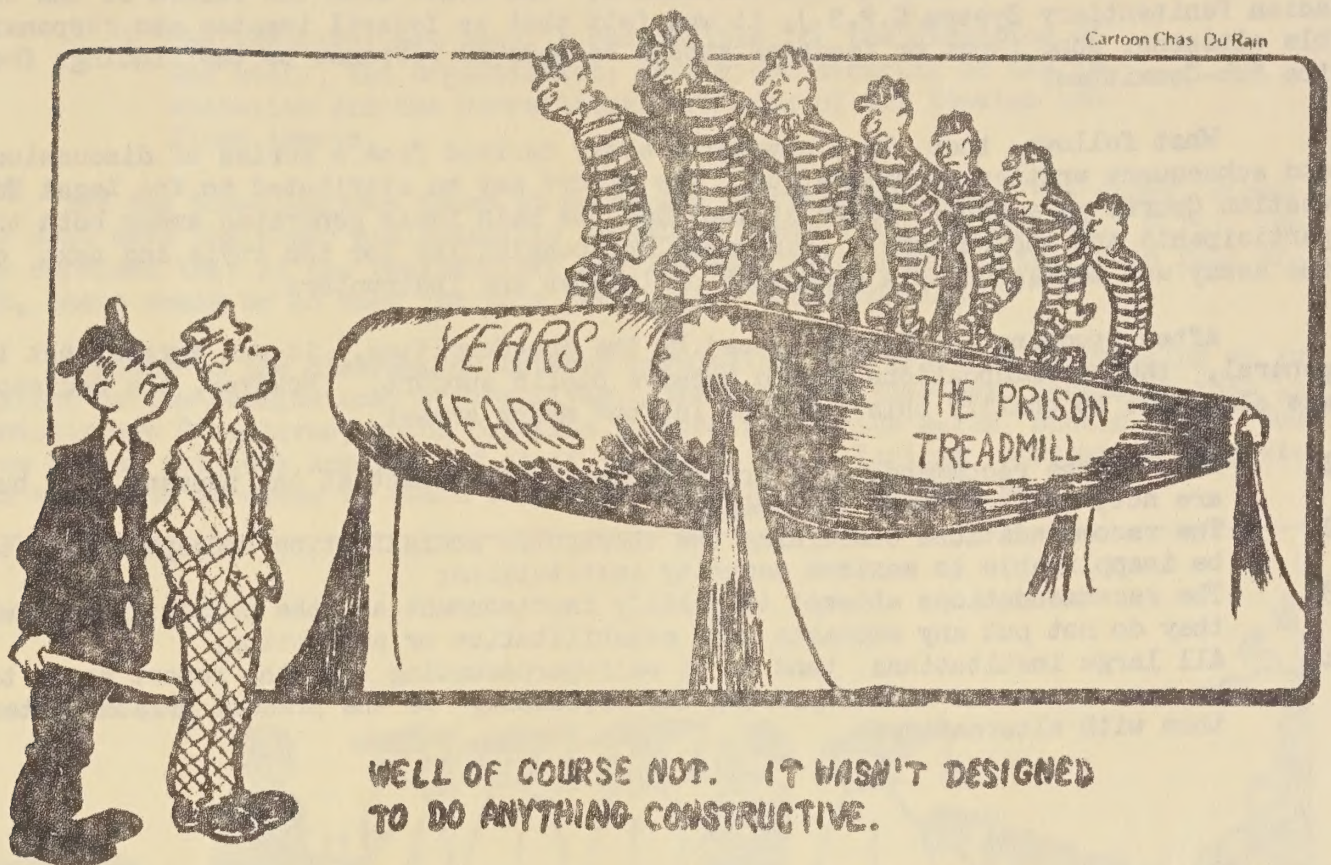
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Response to Recommendations



FROM SHAKIE VERNER

The following essay is the result of many hours of debate, discussion, and argumentation. It began when Judge O'Hearn of Halifax said, while he was speaking at the Law Course, "Give me an alternative", which, at that time, we felt, was an evasive answer to our questions on reform. That afternoon, we decided to voice our response to the Sub-Committee's recommendations and the group as a whole began constructing this essay.

As a member of the group I was asked to voice our opinion by means of "The Communicator", if it were possible. I had intended to re-write the response in a condensed version, but after seeing the essay, I couldn't bring myself to change it, so I've submitted the entire work.

The response is but the opinion of twenty one people, a small amount. In order for the response to have any meaning at all, strong support is needed for both the outside and incarcerated people. We hope that support will follow. We have sent copies to various sources of the media and individuals. I personally hope for your support, and look forward to your response to our response.

On behalf of the fifteen inmates and six instructors who participated in the essay, I say thank you to anyone who expresses their opinion.

..... A RESPONSE TO THE REPORT TO PARLIAMENT ON THE PENITENTIARY SYSTEM IN CANADA.....

INTRODUCTION

During the month of July, 1977, a legal education course was offered to fifteen inmates of the medium security penitentiary in Springhill, Nova Scotia. The course was funded by a Young Canada Works grant sponsored by Penitentiary Legal Services, based in Sackville, New Brunswick. The material for the course was researched and presented by six students with university backgrounds in the areas of law, education, social work, and political science.

As the material of the course was presented, the group became involved in discussions centered around the function that law and the prison system fulfills within our society. In order to focus these discussions, it was decided that an evaluation would be made of the report to Parliament by the Sub-Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs. Since the Report had only recently been released for consideration by the Solicitor General and Parliament, and dealt with the reform of the Canadian Penitentiary System (C.P.S.), it was felt that as federal inmates and responsible citizens, some input or feedback should be made in response to the findings from the Sub-Committee.

What follows, then, is a composite essay derived from a series of discussions and subsequent written documentation. The effort may be attributed to the Legal Education Course as a whole, since it includes the main ideas generated among both the participants and instructors. Similarly, responsibility for the style and text of the essay was delegated to a committee of inmates and instructors.

After studying the Report issued by the Sub-Committee, it was agreed that in general, the recommendations should receive public support. However, the decision was also made to qualify this response in four major areas:

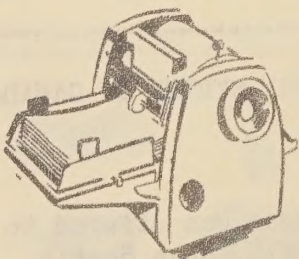
- 1) Many of the recommendations are technically in effect at the present time but are not, in fact being implemented;
- 2) The recommendations concerning the therapeutic socialization concept appear to be inapplicable to maximum security institutions;
- 3) The recommendations attempt to justify imprisonment and the prison system but they do not put any emphasis upon rehabilitation or prevention;
- 4) All large institutions tend to be self-perpetuating and the report seems to be more concerned with improving the efficiency of the present prison system than with alternatives.

Gestetner

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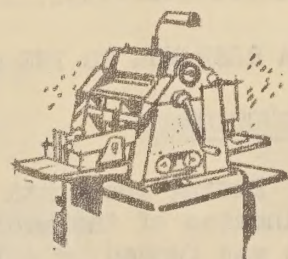
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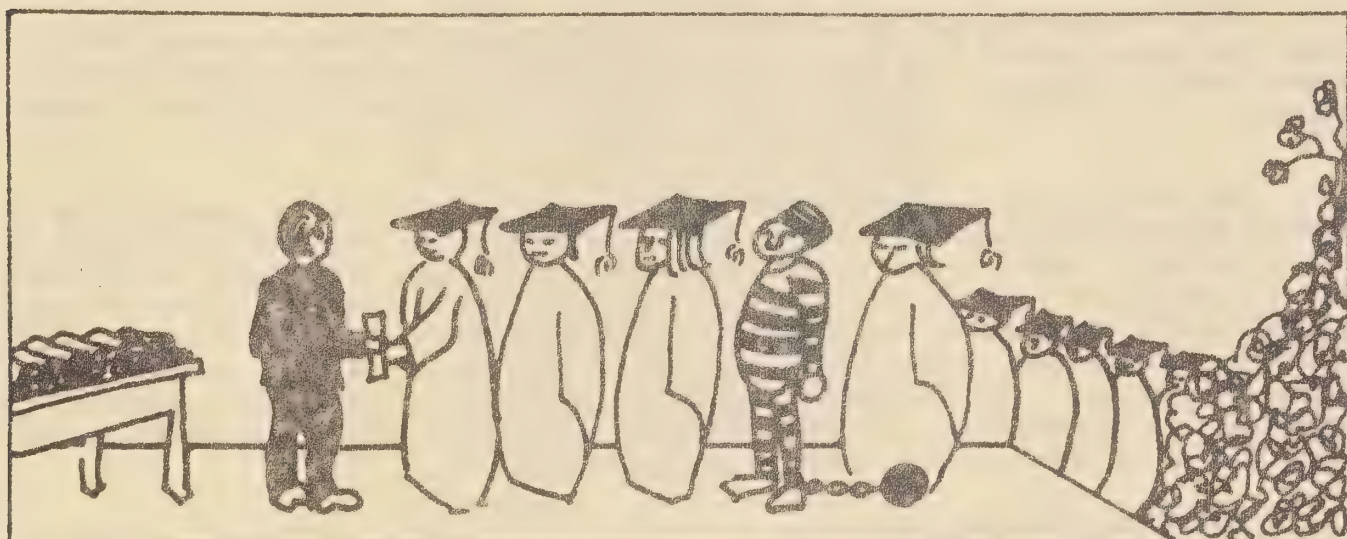
DISCUSSION Part one

It was generally felt within the group that many of the recommendations are technically in effect but are not fully applied. For instance, the Penitentiary Service Regulations state that:

- 1.12 The institutional head is responsible for the direction of his staff, the organization, safety and security of his institution and the correctional training of all inmates confined therein.

Yet the Sub-Committee found it necessary to recommend that, "In short, directors must have the power and authority to manage their institutions." (21, P.75) We have surmised that if the Penitentiary Service Regulations were actually in full effect, there would be no need for this particular recommendation.

Nowhere is the discrepancy between regulation and practice so damaging as in relation to the Commissioner's Directives. The Sub-Committee has recognized that in Commissioners Directives, which regulate justice within the walls, should have, "the force of law for both inmates and staff." (29, P. 163) Various worthwhile suggestions were made as means by which this recommendation may be assured.



Statistics show that it costs as much to keep a man in prison as in college

To begin with, Recommendation 29 goes on to state that the Commissioners Directives, "should be understandable and should be made available to both staff and inmates on entry into the penitentiary." (P. 163) This is absolutely necessary for its own sake but must also be backed up by meaningful channels for appeal. The group felt that the Inmate Committee could potentially assume responsibility for airing grievances and concerns, but only if this function was unrestricted by staff and administration. In order to make sure that the inmate committee is a meaningfully representative organization, the group strongly supported the Sub-Committee's recommendation that, "The penitentiary system should be open and accountable to the public." (25, P. 163)

Accountability may be safeguarded by the position of the Correctional Investigator as long as this person's Independence of the C.P.S. is assured. The group felt that the presence of an ombudsperson is so important that every penitentiary should have one. In this way the ombudsperson would have knowledge of and access to what happens from day to day within each institution. In addition, the presence of active Citizen's Advisory Committees, as recommended by the Sub-Committee, was supported as another way to inject public input into the C.P.S.

Whether or not the Commissioner's Directives are actually followed will ultimately be determined by the penitentiary staff. The experience of working and living within a prison exposes beings to a process of institutionalization that affects guards, counsellors, and inmates alike, resulting in a general lethargy of all prison personnel. This could be offset by an exchange program along the lines that the Sub-Committee recommended, or simply by encouraging university in humanities or community work. Any type of program which would broaden horizons or skirt the ennui which seems to be the inevitable result of employment within an institution would be beneficial to any persons connected with the prisons, again, staff and inmates alike

Finally, the group felt that the quality of staff was a major factor contributing to the ambiguity and unrest which exists within the present system. The recommendations dealing with this issue were generally supported but the group felt

that certain realities of the prison system would naturally tend to inhibit these.

First, it cannot be expected that the quality of staff will improve as long as prisons continue to be built in economically depressed areas. Not only does the C.P.S. have a commitment to employ local labour, much of which tends to be unskilled or untrained in human services, but these areas also have severely limited access to the employment opportunities and community resources so vital to a meaningful program of rehabilitation. As long as the C.P.S. is used as a government employment program, the recommendations regarding the quality of staff and programs will be ineffectual.

Secondly, the problem of the lack of professional integrity and morale of the staff cannot be solved simply by curtailing the power of the Guard's Union and restructuring staff along RCMP lines. Guards do what they have to do in order to cope with their role in a structure based upon dominance and control. It is not surprising that their interests conflict with those of the administration and the inmates. It is surprising, though, that the Sub-Committee could suggest that anything short of an alternative to incarceration will eliminate the brutalization of both inmates and staff.

Part two

After considering the recommendations carefully it becomes apparent that although they precipitated from a loud cry from inmates in maximum security penitentiaries across the nation, many of their concepts cannot be applied to these institutions.

For example the therapeutic community concept is a definite impossibility in maximum security penitentiaries. In order to even begin to consider such a plan of action one must look at a few of the realities of the actual situation. An informal code of protection exists within the institutions which basically outlines the do's and don'ts for both inmates and institutional staff. The inmate code tolerates very little cooperation and communication with the institutional staff, as a means of ensuring solidarity. On the other side, the security code is in direct opposition to this code. The resulting polarization between inmates and staff renders the therapeutic concept of openness and trust an impossibility.

Therefore, Recommendation 46;

There must be ongoing relationships between the same staff members and the same inmates. In particular, the Team concept and especially the Living Unit Concept must become the ordinary theories of staff management at every institution. (P. 165)

cannot and will not work within maximum security institutions. It is a joke to even consider this to be a credible concept and inmates across the country cannot be conned by rash political manipulation of this kind.



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At the present time the Living Unit Concept exists in some minimum and medium security institutions. Although the program is presently in its infancy, if it were to be pulled together and applied properly it could produce potentially positive results. For example, even in a medium security institution like Springhill, the L.U. Concept is confused by the problems of dominance and control. The group felt that this was largely a result of combining security and program functions within the role of classification officers. Therefore, Recommendation 13, which states that, "As far as possible, all staff members should have dual responsibility for security and program". (P. 162) was strongly rejected by the group. Classification Officers (C.O.'S) should only deal with the rehabilitation or resocialization. Let security officers become acquainted with these programs rather than the C.O.'s becoming aware of security measures. In this way the C.O.'s would not have the custodial functions which presently tend to inhibit the development of a trusting relationship.



Therefore, if the recommendations regarding Living Unit Concept are properly applied to minimum and medium security institutions, something good may result. However, the alarming factor is that the Report directs its attention toward Maximum institutions where it is obvious that this type of concept cannot be implemented at the present time, nor even in the foreseeable future.

PART THREE

The Recommendations attempt to justify imprisonment to society and do not put any emphasis upon rehabilitation or prevention. The members of the Law Course were under the impression that the original purpose of the inquiry included a mandate to discover the needs of inmates in order to smooth the tension and unrest that presently exists. Somewhere along the road the inquiry decided to concentrate upon a clarification of the organizational inadequacies of the C.P.S., stating that discipline is what is most of all needed.

According to the Sub-Committee;

We believe that penitentiary problems are basically human problems, and are solved in the same way as other human problems, through the discipline of rules, work and social life for the purpose of self-reformation, to an accepted standard of behaviour.

It may well be true that the C.P.S. needs discipline, but it must also be recognized that strict adherence to institutional objectives on the part of inmates does not guarantee "self-reformation". By choosing to relabel rehabilitation as self-reformation, rather than carefully examining the process which underlies both concepts, the inquiry has failed to identify some of the basic needs of the prison population.

Institutions group inmates together, each are given a number, are institutionalized and in the process, lose their identity. This mode of operation places

emphasis upon the inmate as a part of a group, rather than as an individual. If an incident occurs, the group as a whole is punished rather than just the individual involved.

This process of depersonalization seems to be a function of all large institutions, including hospitals, schools, factories, etc. Hence the very nature of prisons, as institutions, is disfunctional in the sense of promoting personal growth and the acceptance of responsibility. When a person's life is entirely controlled by external authority, no matter how disciplined the application, the self-respect that is necessary in order to make it on the street will not be developed.

Similarly, in order to understand what prevents crime in the first place and what ultimately prevents recidivism, one must seriously consider all the factors that contribute to deviance. It is not enough for an inmate to accept the "discipline of rules, work and social life," within the institution if he or she is to be returned to a situation that negates this responsibility. The most obvious example of this is the person who successfully masters a skill or trade within penitentiary only to be released to discover that employment is a difficult prospect for anyone, much less an ex-con.

PART FOUR

The Parliamentary Inquiry opens with a clear recognition of the crisis in the C.P.S. Its second recommendation states strongly the need to seek definite alternatives to incarceration. Yet, at best the recommendations seek to change the existing conditions to calm the swelling tides of anger and produce a staff efficiency report in order to further secure imprisonment in the arms of society.

As a result the recommendations generally tend to present piecemeal solutions. For example, it was recommended that a separate institution be established for young offenders. If this is not accompanied by a community based program aimed at prevention of juvenile delinquency, then there is a danger that half-way a measure will be the result.

What has been accomplished is simply a segregation policy which will reproduce the present prisons with the age of the offenders being the only noticeable difference.

Placing women in low security cottage style institutions is another potentially meaningless reform. If this group of offenders is considered to be such a low security risk, then why remove them from society at all? The value of an institution in British Columbia for drug offenders is also questionable if it means that a Nova Scotian drug addict will have to be sent to the west coast for treatment. Because such a policy would remove the addict from any security he/she has in terms of environment, one would suspect that the result would be a negative influence on treatment.

In summary, the report states emphatically that prison should be a last resort but only makes cursory mention of real alternatives. Instead, they attempt to justify imprisonment and concern themselves with, "organization and management of the penitentiary system."

CONCLUSIONS

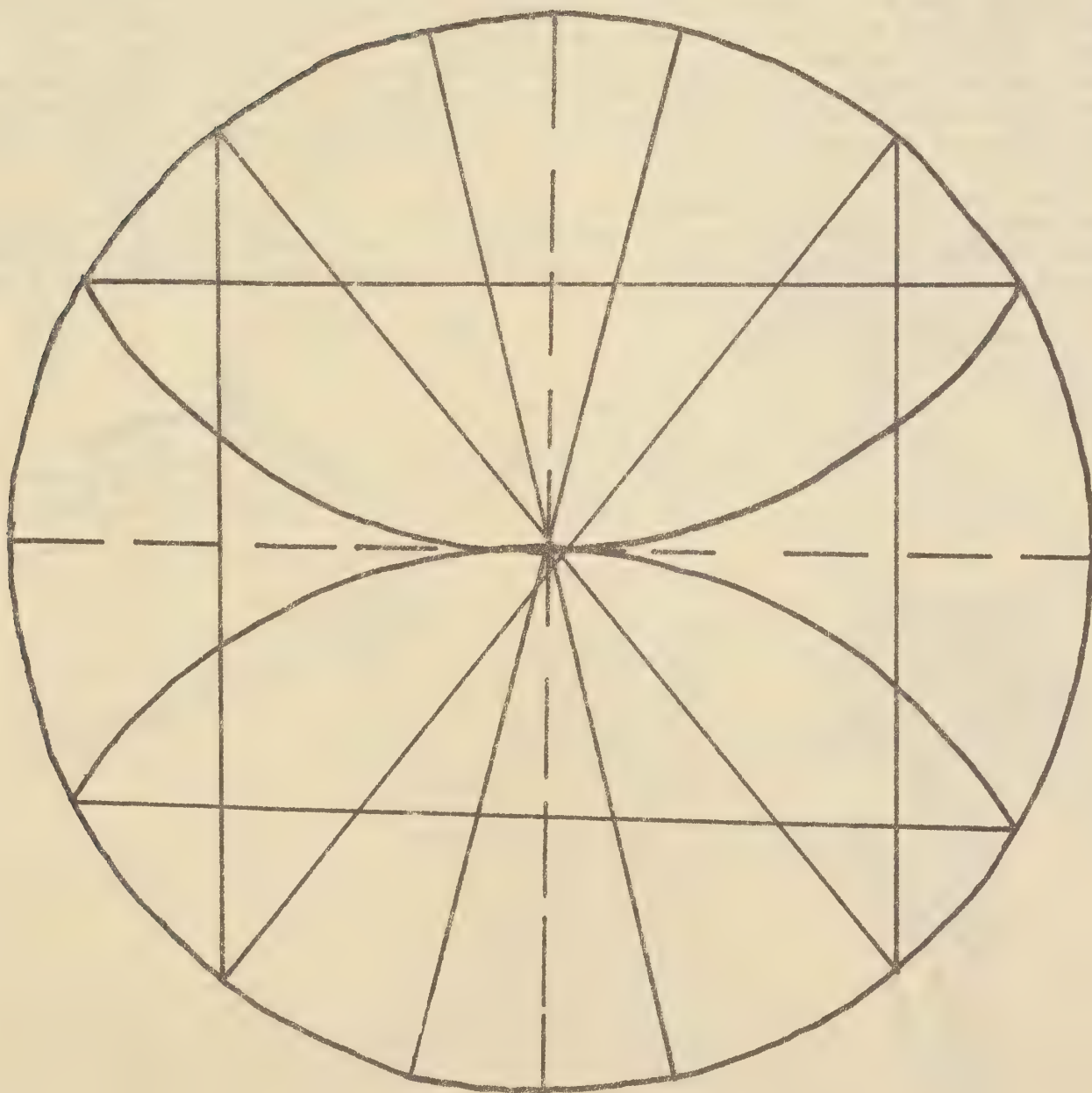
The Recommendations, inasmuch as they represent a sincere effort to reform the existing conditions within prisons, are worthy of support. Yet it must be recognized that everything recommended by the Inquiry is subject to manipulation. Indeed, it is questionable whether this danger can ever be entirely eliminated when reform is being implemented within a system which is by its very nature manipulative. Therefore, the group felt strongly that if all this time, money and energy has been spent on prison reform, an equal investment should be made into the Sub-Committee's 2nd recommendation: That viable alternatives to incarceration should be found.

It must be granted though, that the explanation of workable alternatives was not the responsibility of this Parliamentary Sub-Committee. The mandate of this report was to take the first step toward change - to reform what presently exists. If alternatives are to be found, it will not be a result of initiative taken either within the walls, by the C.P.S., or by the government that externally supports the prison system. An answer to the frustration and waste that is part of prison life, no matter how efficiently the system functions, can only be found on the street. It is the community that bears the brunt, both economically and morally, when men and women are returned to society with more fear, hatred and despair than they possessed

before they were incarcerated. Therefore, it is the people on the street, the community, who will have to initiate, accept, and implement changes that will eventually reduce to a minimum the need to remove offenders from society.

Yet, government, as representatives of the people, does have a responsibility toward ensuring that alternatives be found. For if this second step is not taken it will be the people who will suffer. The Recommendations, if implemented promptly and responsibly, may accomplish their original aim of reducing the violence and unrest that has erupted within the prisons. Yet it cannot be expected, or even hoped, that reform of prisons alone will ever significantly reduce the expense and recidivism that maintains the C.P.S. This depends upon something much more fundamental, namely the transformation of societal values. It is not so much a question of discipline as it is a question of responsibility, and ultimately one must ask; "Is imprisonment the only responsibility that society has toward its offenders?"

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	B3M 2C8		B3H 3K4
	443-1968		429-6033



PREFACE

by RON SAAB

The William Carson, a C.N. Service Vessel, sank suddenly Friday night with 128 persons aboard and all were rescued and unharmed. Purportedly she was sunk by an iceberg amidst the ice flow off the Labrador coast. However it was made evidently clear in a later announcement that it wasn't an iceberg that caused the sinking of the William Carson. I once sailed on the Carson a number of years ago on a voyage emanating from Port Aux Basque (N.F.L.D.) to my destination - North Sydney. I had just finished a period working on the CSS Acadia as an hydrographer. The atmosphere aboard the William Carson at that time was very comfortable. People were clamouring around, drinking in the beer parlour (men & women) and the vast majority were mid-deck, etc. gazing at the water while she worked her mesmeric spell. It took most of the day before I finally went below to have a beer, mostly because I wanted to save what pennies I had to give to my wife at home in Dartmouth.

However, there I was in the beer parlour or bar (if you like) as usual I began gazing at the different conglomeration of people. Men and women of different origins and nationalities. This was no Ship Of Fools, but it was interesting nevertheless.

In those days long hair was considered a sin, in fact, there was one lad who had very long blonde hair and he kept tucking it away under his hat. It wasn't until later that I fully understood why. (because people were so prejudiced against long hair that he felt uncomfortable in certain social situations, and later when I began hiking from North Sydney back to Dartmouth, I saw him on the road with his thumb out and his hair neatly tucked under his hat) I wished him luck under my breath. Back to the bar. I began to get more and more interested in my drinking, rather than the people, but my money situation was still in the back of my mind and I wanted something to show for my pains when I finally arrived home. I dreaded facing Marjorie and Natasha (my daughter).

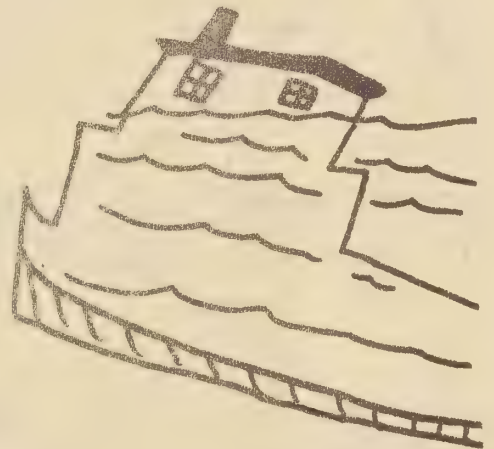
What started out as a preface for a poem about the sinking of the William Carson ends up in a narrative that is the sequel to a short story or novel. I will conclude without writing any more by saying that I arrived home safely the next day to see my daughter and wife well.

However, here is the poem:

Down down she
goes
Plummeting to a
depth of
500 feet
in
icy waters.

Calm calmness
prevailed as
the officers and
crew safely joined
the passengers
aboard the life boats.

Thunder and lightning
had vanished
leaving an air
of mystery, while
a jockey named Willie
Carson rides to
victory in a race in
Britain. He was supposed
to be a handicap.



ALTERNATIVES

Did Anyone Care?



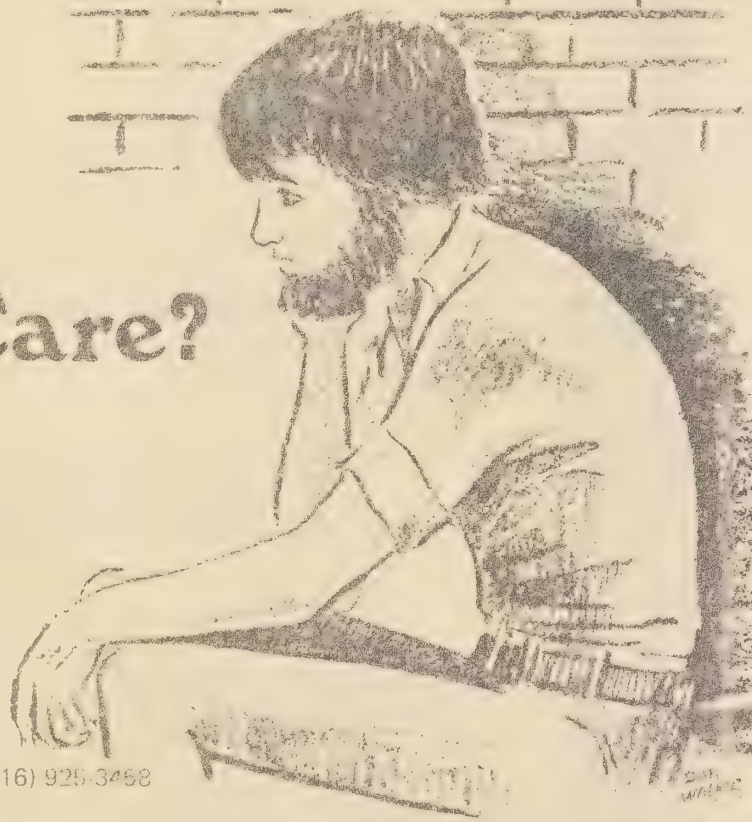
Does Anyone Care?

A project of community
involvement to encourage
a more just and humane
criminal-justice system

Sponsored by the Church Council
on Justice and Corrections

For specific ways to help -
Write or phone:

ALTERNATIVES 404 Jarvis Street, Toronto, Ontario (416) 925-3452
or your local pastor



Attention out there!!! Anyone interested in the Law Reform Commission books and stuff like that, The Communicator regularly receives the latest books, like the Community Participation In sentencing, Community Involvement in Criminal Justice, as we are interested in these things. If you want to read The Ottawa Law Review, or an annual Report by the National Anti-Poverty Organization, Divorce, Family Court, The Findings of the Parliamentary Sub-Committee Investigating Prisons, etc., drop into the office. All we ask is that you look after the books and read them quickly so we all get a chance.

NATIVE BROTHERHOOD REPORT

by STEVE AUGUSTINE

The Native Indian Brotherhood was formed in the year of 1972. We now have an elected executive body, conveniently referred to as the Executive Council. The permanent officers of the executive council are, as usual, President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer.

All executives are elected from the membership at large for a period of six months. All elections to be determined by a straight majority vote.

The executives of the N.I.B. have duties and responsibilities that are similar to those of the executive's with another group, association, or organization that conducts its business in the established parliamentary procedure.

Our aims and objectives are both similar with our Native Indian Brotherhoods and our Native Indian Sisterhoods across the Canadian Provinces. Here is a small listing of our aims and objectives that we have, or are about to, pursue:

- To reinstate pride in our Indian heritage irregardless whether one is Status or Non-Status Indian;
- To institute programs which will help instigate growth in personal development of incarcerated Indian people;
- To create programs to develop personal knowledge of our culture and heritage;

- To create programs designed to involve the already established organizations (Union of Nova Scotia Indians, Union of New Brunswick Indians, Status and Non-Status Indian Associations of N.B., N.S. and P.E.I.) within the confines of the institution so that programs can be developed to meet the needs and requirements of incarcerated Indian people.
- To establish better communication between the reserve and the inmate.

A few months ago the Brotherhood was pleased to hear of the negotiations being finalized between the institution and the Mic Mac Friendship Centre in the case of arranging to have a Native Liaison Worker available to the membership at all times. Sylvester Paul has filled the position and visits the prison very often.

We are presently planning some new activities, such as snowshoe making and have plans for a leather hobby. We also have a Diversion project, still on paper which should be underway very soon to assist native youth in their educations of the prison system, and to reassure the need for formal education, etc.

We usually are able to draw quite a bit of information from a pool of resource people, and these people sometime act as sponsors when our projects leave the institution.

JAMES GOGAN

for over three generations

WE BELIEVE IN COMMUNITY

phone 597-3703 Springhill, N.S.



WHOLESALE LTD

POETRY

SINCERELY: SAMPSON

MY PEN PAL
SAMPSON FROM
GHANA WEST AFRICA
SENDS ME PICTURES
OF THE CHRIST
CHILD & MARY
HE ENCLOSES
AN EBONY
PHOTO IN
THE AIR
LETTER
SAYS HE HAS
BLACK NATURAL HAIR, IS
BLACK IN COMPLEXION. HE
TELLS ME HE COMES FROM A
NEGROES RACE HE DOESN'T
KNOW I KNOW HIS BROTHERS
& SISTERS LIVE IN THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

TERMINAL

SOMETIMES I FEEL
I'M AT THE AIR
TERMINUS OF THE
WORLD WAITING
TO BOARD, LISTENING
TO THE DRONE OF OTHER
PASSENGERS WAITING

I KNOW WHERE THEY'RE
GOING THEY KNOW
WHERE I'M GOING
BUT WE ALL KEEP
OUR TICKETS HIDDEN
IN POCKETS

BLUES: FOR A HORN

ALL THE DAYS THEY
FOLLOW ME YOUR
ANGUISHED EYES
HOT THEY BORE
PENANCE IN MY
SOUL YOUR
FOREHEAD PALE
& HIGH SPEAKS
WHAT YOUR MOUTH
WILL NOT ALLOW, THROUGH
THE NUMBERED ROOMS OF MY
DESIRE, YOU
WALK SIDEWAYS

**LORRAINE
VERNON**

LAMENT FOR A POT-BELLIED S...
 O GIVE ME A NAME TO CHANT
 A POOL TO FOLLOW TO THE ENDS OF THE
 EARTH SOMETHING TO BELIEVE IN OTHER THAN
 MYSELF A CAUSE, A TRUTH, NOT THIS...THIS
 NAUSEA GIVE ME THUNDER, AND DEATH
 SOMETHING, ANYTHING TO CLING TO
 MY MAELSTROM KNOWS NO END
 PROCREATION IS NO SATISFACTION
 TO A PHILOSOPHER
 HE KNOWS TOO MUCH, TO HIDE IN THAT
 SPLURGING OF FEAR
 TAO TE CHING-A-LING, AVON CALLING
 NOTHING IS SACRED, SOCREP, SACROSANCT SNIFF.
 PEACE COMES WHEN MEMORY FADES
 IRRELEVANT INCIDENT FILLS A MISTED HORIZON
 TIME HEALS ALL WOUNDS
 CORRECTS ALL ERRORS, ERASES CONTRADICTIONS
 FICTIONS THE TRUTH IS NO LONGER ELUSIVE, KOFF KOFF
 AND TOMBSTONES ARE TO MAKE SURE YOU STAY WHERE
 YOU BELONG, IN THE PAST, LEFT OF JONES, AND FORGIVEN
 BY ALL THOSE GOOD XTIAN SOULS. SEPARATE INDEED,
 BLOW YOURSELVES ALL TO HELL.

IRRATIONAL IRRATIONAL IRRATIONAL

UP YER NOSE WID A W...
 WHAT PROFUNDITY
 SPRINGING FROM THE...
 THE SOONER YOU GET TO THE...
 GET OUT AHHHH, RUSTIC HUMOUR
 PUNCTUATING LIVER-COLORED COUNT SLIPS
 SLIPPERY COUNTS INDEED MARCHING AS TO WAR
 ON A PREGNANT U.S. ARMY...
 SHOULD YOU DECIDE TO APPLY THE...
 HAVE BEEN SUPPED UPON AT LEAST YOU KNOW
 WHERE YOU STAND LAY DOWN.....
 LIKE A RICH MAN'S DOG INDEED RIGHT AWAY,
 BOSS MAN WE REGRET TO INFORM YOU THAT YOU
 HAVE BEEN CANCELLED DUE TO LACK OF INTEREST,
 CONFOUNDED SEMINALLY ALAS POOR INGER
 WE KNEW HER WELL PERHAPS...NO, NEVER MIND
 IT WAS NOTHING IMPORTANT DO I SOUND D?
 I PROBABLY AM NOTHING A GOOD ROUND WITH
 THE GOON SQUAD WOULDN'T FIX OPPRESSION
 IS A WONDERFUL....WHAT WAS THAT WORD?
 STIMULUS YAS, WELL, THAT'S ALL VERY WELL
 BUT SOMEHOW IT DOESN'T SEEM TO JUSTIFY....
 MAYBE IT DOES IF ONE WERE TO BELIEVE
 HO CHI MINH

ANONYMOUS

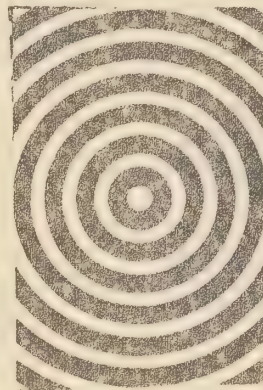
SPIRITUAL FREEDOM

IT HAS NO INCORPOREAL
EXISTENCE,
IT CAN EXIST SOMEWHERE,
BUT WHERE?
IT COULD BE A THOUGHT
OR AN IDEA,
OR JUST A VISION OR DREAM.



SPIRITUAL FREEDOM IS AN
INTANGIBLE SUBSTANCE,
YOU CANNOT HOLD IT IN YOUR
HAND,
YOU CANNOT BUY OR SELL IT, AND
YOU CANNOT TAKE IT AWAY, IT
COULD BE SOMETHING YOU INHERIT
OR SOMETHING YOU FIND.

WITH BLACKS IT COULD TAKE
THE FORM OF "SPIRITUALS"
SOMETHING THAT IS SUNG.
SPIRITUAL FREEDOM IS MORE
THAN JUST TWO WORDS,
IT IS A MAN'S HISTORY, IT
IS A COMBINATION OF HIS
IDEAS, THOUGHTS, FEELINGS
AND STRIVINGS-WHICH ARE
PUT TOGETHER IN A FAR AWAY
PLACE-HIS SOUL.



IT ALSO MEANS BEING SEPARATE FROM
RACE, COLOR OR CREED;
IT MEANS BEING IN TOUCH WITH
YOURSELF AND YOU ALONE BEING
THE NAVIGATOR OF YOUR SHIP,
IT MEANS BEING ABLE TO GO
THROUGH ROUGH WATERS SMOOTHLY.
IDEALLY YOU WOULD BE ABLE TO
TALK TO YOURSELF ON ALL
LEVELS;
COMMUNICATING WITH YOUR MIND,
HEART, BODY, SOUL AND SPIRIT.



REMEMBER-YOUR SPIRIT WILL EVENT-
UALLY SET YOU FREE, FOR
IT WILL BE LEFT BEHIND AFTER
YOU ARE GONE,
IF YOU DON'T BELIEVE ANY OR
PART OF THIS POEM IT IS
BECAUSE WE ARE SPIRITUAL ENTITIES.

RON SAAB

WISHING WELL

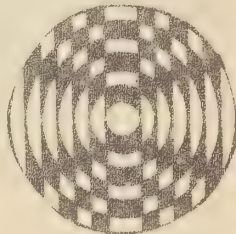
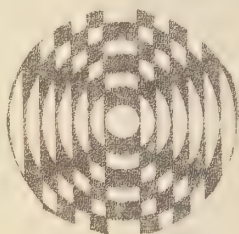
DARK, MUSTY TUBE OF NIGHT-BLACK VOID
LEADING TO THE COOLNESS OF LIQUIDIFIED
GASES, IN WHICH HOMO-SAPIENS HAVE BATHED
THEIR MORTAL FLESH AND QUENCHED THEIR
LONGING THIRST.

YET IN A FANTASY OF THE MIND, THE WOMAN-CHILD
SENDS FORTH A SIXPENCE, IN DESCENT, TO SPOIL
THE STILLNESS OF THE FLUID BODY.

WOMAN-CHILD CONFERRING UPON A NON-THINKING
BODY IN WHICH SHE HOPES TO RECEIVE AN ITEM
OF WHICH THE FLUID HAS NO POSSESSION, NOR
WILL EVER OBTAIN.

THE CHILD FEELS FULFILLMENT HAS BEEN OBTAINED
FROM THE UNMOVING SUBSTANCE. A WISH WAS CAST DOWN,
ECHOING, ALONG THE DARKENED TUBE, STILL AN ANSWER
AWAITS NOWHERE.

SHAKIE VERNER

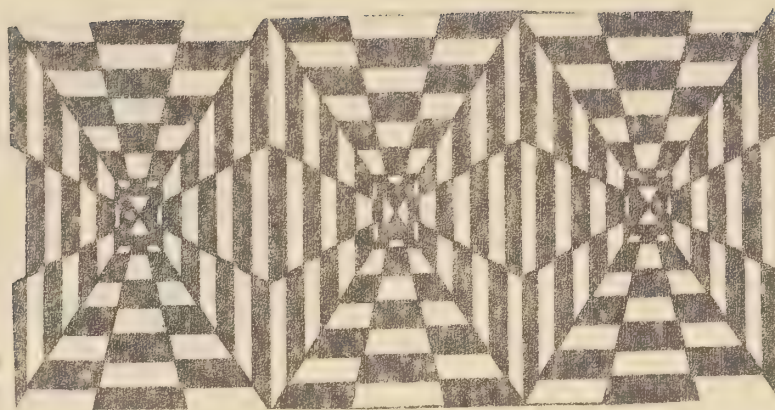


FAITH

FAR AWAY FROM YOUR SWEET LOVE
SURROUNDED BY FOUR WALLS
WHERE SUN DOESN'T SHINE
AND BREEZES DON'T BLOW.
WHERE LAUGHTER'S A DREAM
AND EYES ARE EMPTY.
WHERE FACES ARE HIDDEN
AND VOICES ARE SOUNDLESS.
WHERE LIFE'S STILL
AND DEATH'S SLOW.
WHERE NO ONE CALLS
AND NO ONE REPLIES.
WHERE NOTHING'S FORGOTTEN
AND NOTHING'S REMEMBERED.

ISN'T IT ENOUGH THAT I THINK OF YOU?

MIRZA BAIG



Si J'étais millionnaire

Si j'étais millionnaire
Je te couvrirait d'or
Mais je ne suis qu'errant
Je n'ai que mon cœur
Si tu le veux il est à toi
Car l'amour qu'il renferme
Est d'une grandeur infinie
Ne battant que pour toi
Jour et Nuit!.

Je t'imaginais souvent dans mes
pensées
Tu es l'écran de ma vie
L'écran de mes nuits
Jamais une femme pourrait
apaiser
Ces flammes ardantes
Que tu as allumées au foyer
de mon cœur
Si l'amour est un crime
Le mien est plus grand
Qui t'aime tendrement...



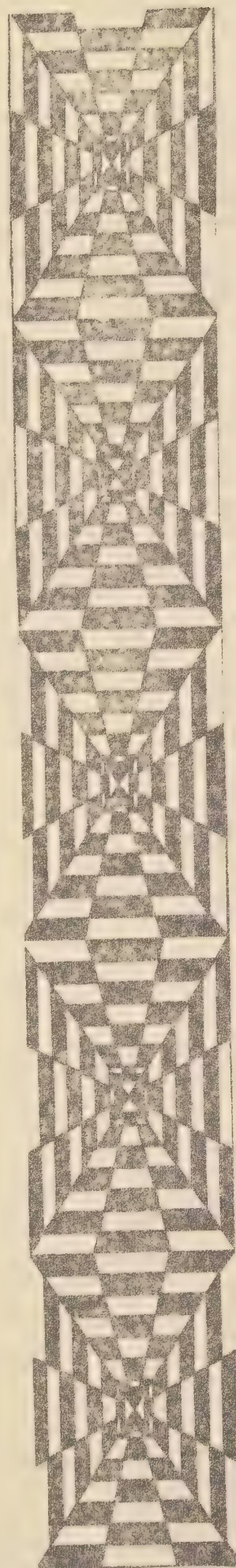
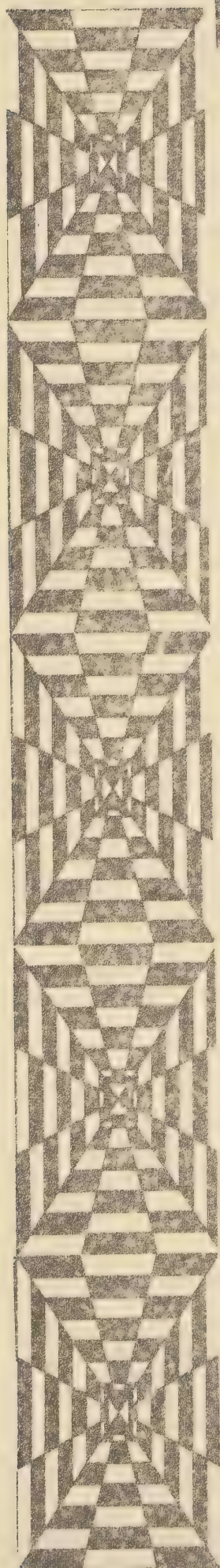
Un Rayon de Soleil

Tu entres dans ma vie
Comme un rayon de soleil
Moi qui ne voyais que malheur
Tu apporte du bonheur..

#

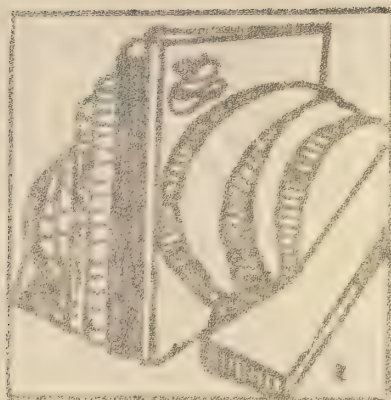
Dans les eaux troubles de ma prison
Je m'endors en criant ton nom
Comme un oiseau tu as fait ton nid
Un cœur déchiré t'aime à l'infinie

Gérald Desrosiers



BOOKS

by Greg Scott



My Dear Friends;

Namaste. It has been eight months since the Prison Book Project began, eight months of tremendous growth for me and judging by your letters, for you. So many have joined us in our journey to God. The Prison Book Project now operates in thirty states and Canada, with over 200 inmate members. To each of you I extend thanks from the deepest places of my being for all the love you have given me. There are not words to express the Love I feel flowing from our spiritual hearts to each other.

Much spiritual work is being accomplished by inmates across the country which I would like to share with you briefly. Many individuals are working on themselves and making great strides in consciousness. Numerous groups are active in meditation hatha yoga, and spiritual discussion. Dharma shelves are a reality in an increasing number of prisons. People are sharing books among fellow seekers, both inside and outside. If you have a librarian, he is encouraged to write for spiritual books. Or as many members have done, you may wish to donate a book or two of your own. Please continue to tell other inmates who are on the path to write if they wish books. Our rapid growth is due only to your passing the word, so keep it up. You are the Prison Book Project.

Only two problems have developed over the months, and I need your help to solve them. The first is that some of you desire a romantic relationship with me. The intention of the Prison Book Project is spiritual growth. I am not interested in you romantically. My husband of twelve years fulfills and we have three lovely children. So please understand where I am coming from and refrain from writing me in this manner.

The second problem occurs because of the extremely slow passage of time in prison. There is only me here at the Prison Book Project. I answer your letters and send your books as quickly as possible. There are family and school obligations which I am sure you can appreciate. Also send a little love to the postal service. They try, but it may take several weeks for your books to arrive.

A new lending library program is now in effect in addition to free spiritual books. There are so few available copies of many important books that it has become necessary to institute this new method of sharing. If you become a part of this new program, please return the book with the enclosed postage as soon as you are finished reading it. In this way as many inmates as possible will be able to benefit.

Please note our new address above. My family and I have moved recently. Please correct the address with your administrators as necessary. It has been a moving summer for others too. Bo and Sita Lozoff can now be reached at Prison Ashram Project, Box 39, Nederland, Colorado 80466. The Hanuman Foundation has moved also to Box 1558, Boulder, Colorado 80306.

Dear ones, you are in my heart always. Let us continue to grow together in Love of God. Live in the light.

Be in Love,
Diane Fink
Prison Book Project
P.O. Box 746
Newport, Rhode Island
02840

(People wishing to receive books from the Prison Book Project or Prison Ashram Project must put in a request to receive books from this source to avoid disappointment.)

To cover some publications missed last issue in the section "Read All About It", which outlined all the penal publications we receive, I've included these.

Pen - Vista Archambault
26 pages Bilingual
Editors - Emile Zarbatany
Jacques Tourigny
Gerald Dupois

Contents;

Editorial
Rehabilitation without Preparation
Oliver Curtis Perry
French Poem
Mafia of the British Lords
Archambault - a Poem
Historical Notes
Profile of a Foul Up
Penal Press
The Groups
The Gun That Made The Twenties Roar

Community Sentiment Thomaston, Maine.
8 pages
Editors - Paul Shiplett
William Stone

Contents;

Warden Oliver
Chaplain's Offices
Poetry Workshop
Statistics
Poem
Tittilating Tales of Tukeism
Education Interview
Animals In A Cage
Sports Round Up

Star News Soledad
8 pages
Editor - Tony Hernandez

Contents;

State Public Defender's Office
Legal Counsel To Appeal Boatwright Decision
Writers Forum
South Side Tidbits
Enough Talkfight, Let's Box
CMC Concerns Regarding Qualified Effective Attorneys to fight Boatwright
Soledad Vs Kiwanis
Championship Team That Wasn't
War Movies
CTF - Central All Star Football Team
Radio Reviews
Dissolution of Marriage (Divorce)



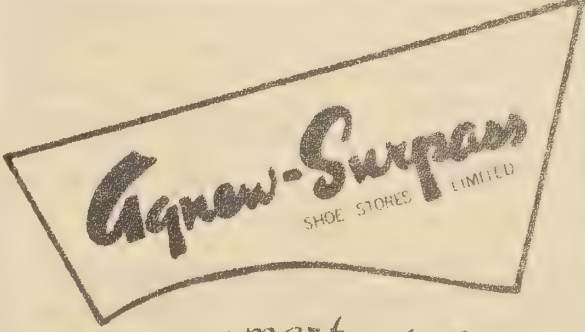
In terms of book reviews this issue, I'm afraid I'll have to put it off until later. Too much activity required as the editor, I discover. I'll give a rough out line of what I've been reading, in its place.

The science fiction shelves are looking good, a new Roger Zelazny novel from the Amber series; Galactic Dreamers, an anthology by Robert Silverberg; Frederick-Pohl's Gateway is also worth reading, as is Algis Budrys's Michaelmas.

Mary Stewart's Touch Not The Cat is an interesting historical fantasy, as are her two books on Merlin, the Chrystal Cave and the Hollow Hills.

Shogun is back on the shelves after being missing for a while. Tolkien's new book is also now in circulation. Some funny books by people like Donald Westlake in the fiction section, along with Evelyn Waugh, are always good for a few chuckles.

The poetry of Kahlil Gibran gets a lot of exposure. This author has over a dozen books in the library, so he can be got into in great style.



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Friday	9 - 9.00
Saturday	9 - 5.30

CHURCH NEWS



by WAYNE MacINNIS

After reading many issues of our institution newspaper, I was saddened, to say the least, in not finding any articles concerning our church or about the groups that are held there. As a Christian I feel that it is my duty to tell the population and the reading public about what goes on inside our Prison Chapel.

Our Chapel is a pretty busy and well occupied part of this joint and it's kept that way by the steady flow of inmates who go there. Father Bob Hallet and Reverend Dennis Veinotte are kept pretty busy while organizing and looking after the various groups, individual counselling, and directing the services. Let me further explain about some of the groups: Our prayer groups are held every Monday night right after the yard opens. We gather at the Chapel and have a bit of fellowship until seven o'clock when the outside guests come in. When the Christian guests from Amherst arrive, we gather in a circle to pray, sing, read the Bible and share our thoughts. This goes on for an hour or more and then we close with coffee and more fellowship.

Our Bible study group gathers at the Chapel, usually every Thursday evening at seven o'clock. We (inmates) read the Bible and discuss at length the part we have read and what it means to us. During our Bible group sessions we usually have a sharing of our own feelings and about our own personal relationship with the Lord. These sessions are very profitable to the inmate where as we can show each other, and ourselves, that we are sincere in our belief in Christ and of our efforts to become Christians. More discussion of the Christian-Con further on in this article. Our group usually ends the Bible study with prayer, then we have fellowship and coffee.

Theo-Drama, that's a good group and a very self-profiting one at that. What we do is read parts of the Bible and then act them out, it's sort of like doing a play and using the Bible as a script. We video tape the whole session, then gather around in a circle and try to relate ourselves to the roles that we have played. A good example is the Prodigal Son which is found in Luke chapter 15, verse 11 to end of the chapter. This scripture tells about two sons and their father, also about the problems of one of the sons. If you haven't read this piece of scripture yet, please do so because it relates to many of us inmates. These sessions also end with fellowship and coffee.

Also we have in our Chapel, a Kairos-Marathon group. This group convenes approximately once every six weeks. The group consists of about 20 to 30 people, some who are guests and the rest are inmates. Once started the group is together for a continuous 26 or 27 hours, usually starting at 10 in the morning and continuing until 1 o'clock the following afternoon. As to the achievement of what a person gets out of the group, is entirely up to the individual, depending on the input they want to contribute. The topics we discuss are numerous, as we talk about anything at all. Although we do have rules, very few, they are strict and are there to protect the individual. The main two rules are, 1) no physical violence, 2) no discussing of what was said inside the group to people who were not there. The other five rules are minor but meaningful. The group is isolated from everyone during the time we are together. If you are a newcomer to the institution, I suggest, if you are interested in this group, to seek out either Father Hallet or Rev. Veinotte and have them add your name to the waiting list, there is a long list as this is a very well respected, in many ways, group.

We also have what is called a Gospel Group who come to the institution once a month. This group consists of a number of Christians from the Halifax/Dartmouth area. Their sole purpose in coming to the institution is to tell us about our Lord Jesus Christ. They do this in various ways, singing, prayer, individual testimonies and of course, the group leader Stan Fullard, who talks and tells us of the many wonderful things our Lord did for us. This time together with these wonderful people is spent in the old gym usually on a Sat. Whenever they will be here, advance notice is always put out for us.

After mentioning some of the groups that originated at the Chapel, I'll go on to tell you about our regular services. The protestant service begins usually at 10 A.M. and concludes at 10:45 A.M. or thereabouts. Sometimes we have guests from the outside to join in our time of worship. Most times our pastor, Rev. Veinotte conducts 3 services a month. As for the last Sunday of the month, we have a guest who comes in to conduct the last service. Our welcomed guest is Mr. (Major) Wilmat N Linder of the Salvation Army in Moncton, N.B.

The R.C. Mass is held Sunday evenings at approximately 6:30 or 7:00 PM. in the same chapel. These services are looked after by Father Hallet, although there are guests who come in to speak at the R.C. Mass. They're usually guests attending from the outside. Both the Protestant and R.C. Mass services are attended regularly by inmates and I might add, thoroughly enjoyed, so on behalf of the chaplains and church body, I invite you to attend our services over in our prison Chapel.

In conclusion to this article, you, whoever you are, inmate or outsider, can justly see that our chapel plays a very important part in the lives of many inmates here in the prison. From both sources of people, in and out, some may laugh or scorn because they look at the fact that we're in prison. You may also ask yourself this question: How can a person be a Christian and be in jail or how can you become a Christian in jail and stay with it? Well, the answers are simple, if the person, no matter who they are, wants to be honest with himself! Answers to those are found below:

Question #1. How can a person be a Christian and yet be in jail? Answer - Even a Christian makes mistakes, the main thing is to pick yourself up and keep going even though the situation may seem hopeless.

Question #2. How can you become a Christian in jail and stay with it? Answer Have guts enough to ask Jesus for help, but be sincere when you ask him. If you are honest in wanting to live a clean life, then Jesus will help you. If you believe in Jesus and have asked him to help you, well my friend, you have become a "Christian". You won't change overnight but the main thing is that you have the desire to change. Do you believe in Heaven and Hell? You should, it's real! You as a Christian go to Heaven but there is only one alternative for someone who doesn't believe in Jesus!! You may curse and swear or whatever for a time after you accept Jesus, but that can't mean anything as long as you still have and exercise the desire to stop these things. Don't forget, it takes time to break a lifetime habit. Don't give up if someone in their own ignorance laughs at you.

In closing may I say that you're all invited to check out our Prison Chapel and share with the many others who are searching. Thanks for reading this article and I pray that in some way it has helped you.

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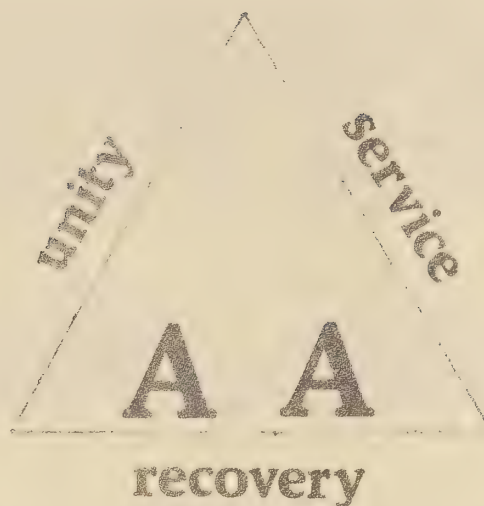
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AA MEDICINE

Facts & Experiences of AA by Bob R.

As uncontrolled drinkers, few of us realized the danger of our position or the great extent to which the illness alcoholism had damaged and deteriorated our minds and bodies.

The A.A. program, by which we affect our recovery, is simple and can work if we live it. The barriers to our success are, ignorance of our illness, reservations, indifference, dishonesty and brain damage.

A.A. is not a religion and is not accountable to any organized religion, medicine or psychology. It has, however, drawn therapeutic virtues from them all, moulding them into a "Design for Living" by which we live in contented sobriety and are restored to service and respect in society.

The A.A. program is designed for uncontrolled drinkers who sincerely desire sobriety and are willing to go to any lengths to get it. But, if we fail-

ably fails alcoholics who merely seek to control their drinking thru the knowledge of the program.

The alcoholics who have recovered through the Alcoholics Anonymous Fellowship, have effectively disproved the age-old conviction that all alcoholics are untrustworthy and that they are destined to remain hopeless drunken sots.

By regularly attending A.A. meetings and referring to the members interpretations of the Twelve Steps as we progress, we will lay a strong foundation upon which we can rehabilitate our lives.

We, the alcoholic, realize that perfection is impossible. Therefore we strive toward perfecting our lives in such a way that is necessary to bring about our sobriety, health and sane behavior and the fatal and incurable illness of alcoholism.

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The Arts & Crafts News

Things are coming along smoothly at the Hobby Office. Pierre Gougen has two guys, Gordie Rose and Tom Kelly on hand to help out with the confusion of paperwork and organizing an Arts and Crafts program. Several new forms have been designed to speed up orders and request forms.

Guys with hobbies are asked to consider the following:

Orders should include all particulars-size, number, colour, page number, exact quantity, address of supplier, etc.

Orders should be placed as soon as possible, as it may take some time for the orders to come back. (6-8 weeks) because new companies have not yet given a credit rating to the institution.

Cell permits are necessary for your protection, and as you receive supplies, a receipt will be issued, and this would be best placed under the permit, on the container you use for supplies.

Mailing home for Christmas should happen very soon, to avoid disappointment. Orders for Christmas sales or gifts should have been in weeks ago.

Good prices and sales depend on the quality and cleanliness of the items. If a person is able to guarantee the un-

interrupted production of material, it should be possible to find a retailer to stock your produce, where you can get a better price for your goods.

The selection committee is a board of administrators who are to oversee the issue of hobby permits and schedules in order that there is no conflict with the rest of the institution.

The inmate advisory council is to advise the arts and crafts co-ordinator as to the general progress of the hobby programs, assisting in the planning of arts and crafts activities, resolving conflicts in the programs, and generally evaluating the programs so that the best of all possible arrangements can be made available.

The introduction to drawing course is going along well from all reports. Two more courses are planned as soon as enough people have signed up. One is an Audio Visual Workshop, for working with video equipment, and the other is a good leather working course for people interested in starting a leather hobby, or to help guys who are already into it. The forms to apply for these courses are available in the unit canteens. When you have filled out the first part of the form, it is to be given to your range officer for his comments.

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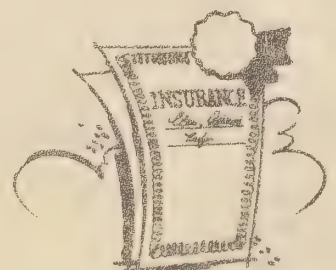


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Our Twenty Seventh Year

DITTO METAMORPHOSIS

by SHAKIE VERNER

Ditto-We meet, and much has happened since last issue. To begin with, remember the old melody, "Raindrops Keep Falling On My Bed"? It all began with the rainy season and due to our leaky roof it seemed to rain more inside than outside. As a cure, the emergency measures act was activated and street-side roofers came to rescue us from flooding. We of No. 8 are grateful, for now we sleep upon dry beds and walk upon dry floors.

I guess "King D" is a kind man because he gave us one more chance to straighten up. Things were debated and talked out and now the castle is again running smooth, except for two lads who took off at the cornboil while on groups T.A. The other twenty-two inmates, who had to come back four hours early, are very upset about this. All the inmates feel they deserve what they got.

Lets speak in a lighter vain now. A strange occurence befell us one misty morning. Louie O'Toole flushed his toilet and by some freak accident it actually exploded. This was later explained as being the result of a plumbing malfunction, but still I wonder what it is Louie has been eating.

Many of us were sad, but happy, when Vic DeBarletta recieved his parole. He was a well liked man who offered assistance to anyone who was in need. Good Luck to you Vic! Gerry LeBlanc transferred to D.P. for a change of atomsphere, Cooke recieved his parole after serving a decade in the service, and finally the short-stop, Dargavel, has gone to the farm, followed by Lady Lunn.

Brothers-of-eight sports has become fantastic and on a couple of times amusing. Ball T.A.s for cons against screws

have been taking place. On one occasion I had the experience of umpiring such a game but refuse to speak about it.

There was one very good spirited game played on August 23. The "Brothers of Eight No-Stars", consisting of the pitcher Ede, Big Burt, Silly Pants, Kojak, Butterfingers Campbell, Crooning Chown, Jumping Joudry, Crazy Carr, and Canteen Chown, lost against "The King and His Court plus Imported Associates," which consisted of King Dazzling Doug, who hit a grand slam, Ready Rose, Slippery Livingston, Dead-Eye Darrogh, and five imports of names unknown. The final score was 14 to 7, which in front of the large audience looked bad for us. Joudrey accidentally projected a ball directly at Dead-Eye Darrogh and as a result ther was a slight injury, but no hard-feelings boys.

Both teams really enjoyed the game and immediately following it, George Mc-Aloney appeared on the spot with a surprise consisting of five dozen cob-corn and cooking utensils. The boys say, "Thanks, we appreciated it."

Inside sports left the "A" team in third place, but left the "B" team in first place.

They were fantastic, their top players were Ede, Spinney, Saniford, Hamilton, Campbell, and a few others. All the boys played their best. There was one injury during the season. Teddy Smith fractured his leg while sliding into second base and has been hospitalized as a result, Get-Well soon Ted.

Till next issue remember, we are the men who sit in our cell, wondering which is worse, here or hell.



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THE FRUSTRATIONS OF NO.9

by JEDCROW

Another summer has passed, taking our griefs along. From conversations I have had in the past with others, it seems that summer is the season of boredom and regrets. "Ifs", fill the head of some; if I didn't do this; if I didn't do that, I wouldn't be here this summer. There is no criticism here for these thoughts. I'm sure, at some time or another in our lives, we have used this unmeaningful word. Maybe someday Merriam-Webster will provide us with a more meaningful word, which at least can be accepted.

The last parole seating granted (8) members of our establishment a parole. I'm sure these are appreciated by the individuals, but to some people they are just another face. There are the friends of these people who, of course, are glad to see their friends released. there is always a problem of feeling of loss, involved. Although some will not admit it, I'm sure they all realize it. But soon, the system is back in motion, dragging you along. There is the problem of communication between friends, after one is released. No more letters.

or visits from the individuals outside. The only result is that maybe someday there will be an encounter between the friends outside.

Although summer has passed, the fire-bug is still with us. Fourteen nights of early lock-up repeats itself for this occurrence. Fortunately T.L.A.s were not ringled with. This is a threat to everyone in No.9. Hopefully this will never occur. I know myself that if such a thing ever happens, there will be alot of unhappy faces, along with unhappy minds. Let's hope history doesn't repeat itself.

At the present there are some happenings in the unit this month. Painting of cells have finally began. The pictures, which many admire, will soon disappear into a blank colour. In some conditions it is good for painting, but in others it is disappointing. I'm sure the conditions will change for some. Hopefully we will be able to choose our own colour. Black and white stripes



NO 10 Unit:

MICHAEL McCABE



Well, looks like the long hot summer has drawn to a close. Too bad we had all that rain we could have used the rays for a good dark tan.

The boys on the Atlantic Challenge are back. With some hair-raising stories of fame and fortune on the high seas. Everyone faired pretty well learning a little about several things, one being sailing. They had pretty good weather and all looked pretty tanned so I guess they enjoyed themselves.

The meetings as of late have been turning up some new ideas for geting the unit together. The discussion committee has enlarged to 7 members and is at work on several projects. One being a T-shirt sale where an inmate can buy a colored T-shirt cheaper then on the streets. Other ideas include a choclate sale and the fixing up of the short range. The general attitude in the unit is one of optimism towards getting things worked out after some shakey days this summer.

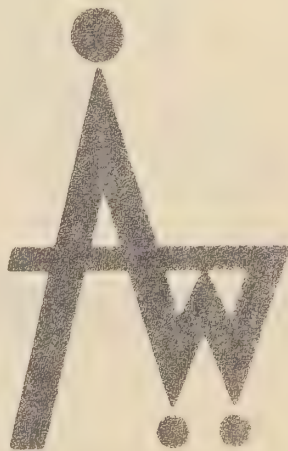
The "A" ball team got it together for the final games and the playoffs. Led by the pitchers Al McLead and To. Carter they tried to stage a comeback. They held it together for the first game of the playoffs, but weren't strong and tight enough to take the rest of them. The games were tough though and No. 11 had to fight to take them.

The "B" ball team faired a little better. They went down to the wire with No. 8 and lost the final playoff game in the last inning by one run. They put up some fight though having the last game extended to the next night because of no light and a tied score.

Now everyone is into the new sports. Several things are happening now including soccer, a dart league, a cribbage league and multiple sports in the gym. The rest of the guys are hanging tough in the unit playing cards and enjoying the new fall season of shows on the T.V. The new antenna that was put up makes the colors a lot sharper on the tube, now all we have to do is get the set back from the T.V. repairman. Someone in the unit put a whammy on it and it broke.

Well someone finally made it out to look at the lake for the purpose of swimming. I didn't think that it would ever happen. The report is that in order for swimming to occur a whole lot of work has to be put into it. So store up the energy for next year because come Spring we'll be needing it.

Other then the new guys coming in and the old guys going out life goes on in NO.10. The time seems to move faster in the Winter, so I'm told, so before you know it we'll be ready for baseball season again. So until next issue, "that is all she wrote".



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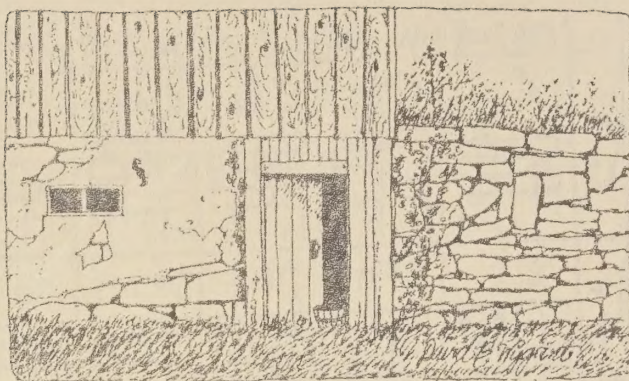
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IT'S A MAD DUMB WORLD

NO 11:

ANONYMOUS



The theme for this month is, "watch your step", and there are many reasons for this. First of all, the cold weather is upon us once more, or at least it will be very soon. The units tend to become more crowded than they were in the summer, and this congestion takes a little time getting used to. Tempers may become a little bit short as you try and settle in for another Winter, bringing out the impatience in all of us. I notice that there are a lot of new faces in the unit, society's gift to us via the fall clean-up, to be counted on year in and out. Our own personal trust in each other has taken a beating lately because of the amount of theiving among the ranks, that has been going on. Some unfortunate newcomer may find himself in quite a jam if he becomes too eager to socialize and crosses over the lines that have been set-up by the older inmates in the unit. I don't know all the various rules and regulations that have been instituted and/or modified in the failing inmate code. But, here are a few things that the newcomers can keep in mind, while becoming adjusted to our little Stalag.

(1) Stay out of another guys cell, unless you are invited in. If he is in his cell and you want to talk to him, try knocking first. Just because we're in jail doesn't mean that we don't enjoy some form of privacy, no matter how little. In fact, that little display of respect will mean a lot to most guys and you may find him more willing to meet you because of this.

(2) The next point will depend largely on the individual. Many people don't like to be asked what they are in for, for many reasons. Some feel it is none of your business and some don't talk about it just because they don't see any reason to. It is pretty hard to distinguish between the people who will talk about it and those who won't. If you are wrong in your evaluation you may turn off a person who is really worth having as a friend, just because you happen to be a little too inquisitive.

Anyway, I might as well get off the subject as I've just been reminded that I was a newcomer at one time and that it is best to live and learn. But, if you keep these points in mind you may find it a little bit easier to make friends.

Another point I would like to touch on has to do with the living unit staff. I won't go into detail, because I don't know all of the details involved. Last week, the L.U.2, mentioned that on Oct. 8th they will be instituting a "work to rule order". They say that they have their own reasons and for all intents and purposes they probably do. What I think, we as inmates should look at, is what kind of effect it can have on us. If, and I say if, they decide to go the limit, they can make things very difficult for us. I won't go into details of it because that would give them ammunition to use against us. If you ask some of the inmates that have been around for some time, you can get a clear picture of what can be in store for us if it comes down to a squeeze. What is being done is to force the government into giving the PSAC (Public Service Alliance of Canada) what they want, at the cost of the inmate. We are the ones who receive the pressure and harrassment. The best thing to do, that I can see, is to try and ignore this harrassment as much as possible, until things get back to normal. You may see some changes in the routines, such as more charges, more strictness in the unit and a kind of political play unique to the union structures. Just try to remember that this is not permanent and if you keep above it, it won't affect you. If we don't have at least a small bit of unity in this matter we will be the ones who will lose.

It goes without saying that this paragraph may not be needed, as the work to rule of order, may not come into effect at all. I hope this is the case. But I intend to look at it this way, just because there was never a fire in your school, it didn't stop the administration from having a fire drill. An ounce of prevention....

GUITAR CHORD CHART

	MAJOR	MINOR	MAJ. 6th	MIN. 6th	DOM. 7th	MAJ. 7th	AUG. 7th	MIN. 7th	AUG. (4)	DIM. (4)
C	C ₀₀ 	Cm 	Cb 	Cmb 	C7 ₀ 	Cmaj7 ₀₀₀ 	C7+5 	CM7 	C+ 	Cdim
D or Cb	D ₀ 	Dm 	D ₀₀ 	Dmb 	D7 ₀ 	Dmaj7 	D7+5 	Dm7 	D+ 	Ddim
D	D ₀ 	Dm 	D ₀₀ 	Dmb 	D7 ₀ 	Dmaj7 	D7+5 	Dm7 	D+ 	Ddim
E or Fb	E ₀ 	Em 	E ₀₀ 	Emb 	E7 ₀ 	E ₀₀₀ 	E7+5 	Em7 	E+ 	Edim
E	E ₀ 	Em 	E ₀₀ 	Emb 	E7 ₀ 	E ₀₀₀ 	E7+5 	Em7 	E+ 	Edim
F or Eb	F ₀ 	Fm 	F ₀₀ 	Fmb 	F7 ₀ 	F ₀₀₀ 	F7+5 	Fm7 	F+ 	Fdim
F	F ₀ 	Fm 	F ₀₀ 	Fmb 	F7 ₀ 	F ₀₀₀ 	F7+5 	Fm7 	F+ 	Fdim
G or F#	G ₀ 	Gm 	G ₀₀ 	Gmb 	G7 ₀ 	G ₀₀₀ 	G7+5 	Gm7 	G+ 	Gdim
G	G ₀ 	Gm 	G ₀₀ 	Gmb 	G7 ₀ 	G ₀₀₀ 	G7+5 	Gm7 	G+ 	Gdim
A or Bb	A ₀ 	Am 	A ₀₀ 	Amb 	A7 ₀ 	A ₀₀₀ 	A7+5 	Am7 	A+ 	Adim
A	A ₀ 	Am 	A ₀₀ 	Amb 	A7 ₀ 	A ₀₀₀ 	A7+5 	Am7 	A+ 	Adim
B or Cb	B ₀ 	Bm 	B ₀₀ 	Bmb 	B7 ₀ 	B ₀₀₀ 	B7+5 	Bm7 	B+ 	Bdim
B	B ₀ 	Bm 	B ₀₀ 	Bmb 	B7 ₀ 	B ₀₀₀ 	B7+5 	Bm7 	B+ 	Bdim

Inmate Committee is all about. The purpose of the committee is to present to the administration the views of the majority of the inmates, and then to relay information back to the inmates on the decisions of the administration. In the past the committees have made possible things like the purchasing agent, family visiting day, camera facilities, book sales, etc., which most people take for granted. These few items take a lot of time to organize and maintain, but people never think of that as they put down a committee for not getting inflatable dolls approved. The thing to remember is that you get what you vote for, and if you vote for a guy because he is "solid" and is always quick to tell people to shove it, then you can't expect him to work patiently for months to get something going.

Preview

This is my first issue as editor, and it just sort of fell together all by itself. The cover, another Saab original, for those of you not familiar with our inside yard, is a representation of some crane-type attachments on the units, used by the workmen who've been working on the roof all summer. Ron Turbo Saab is not a normal guy, and he had no difficulty visualizing these attachmants as some great new predatory insect, somewhat akin to the Praying Mantis. The rest follows quite logically.

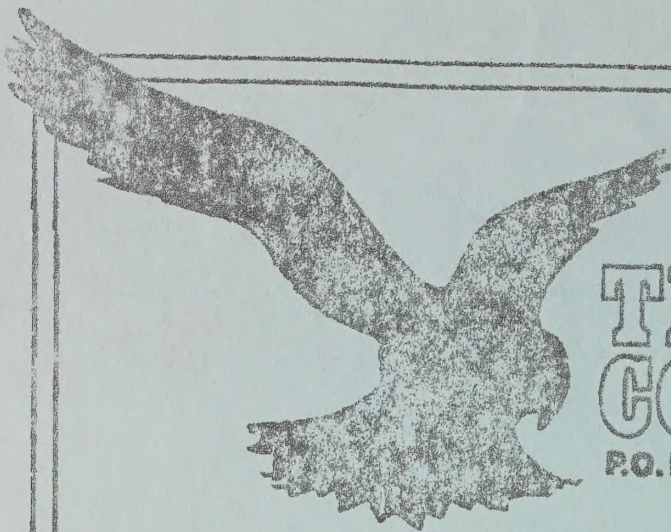
Local Stops is full of short tidbits this month. Another item you may notice is the reports of the Native Brotherhood and BIA. We've been trying to get these people to write for a while, and finally we got something. Similarly, the church's news has never been really printed. For our feature article this issue, the Law Course prepared a response to the Recommendations of the Parliamentary Sub-Committee on Prisons. We are very interested, of course, in this type of thing as it affects all of us a lot.

The poetry section is pretty good this time, and we have a short story-poem by Saab on the sinking of the William Carson. The usual unit reports reflect the individual personalities of the four units, through the personalities of the four unit writers. That's about all for this issue. See you next time around.

"When I was a kid, I had a box of wooden soldiers, and I thought the world of those soldiers. Somehow I lost them, and it nearly broke my little heart. Well, my old mother says to me, 'Never mind, lad. You'll find your wooden soldiers again someday.'"



Lou Myers



THE COMMUNICATOR

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